Course Title: **United States Government and Economics**

**NazARETH AREA HIGH SCHOOL**

**US Government and Economics ⦁Mr. Cunningham ⦁ tscunningham@nazarethasd.org**

**Course Description:**

The course will be divided into two disciplines: United States Government and Economics. In the first portion of the course, students will have an opportunity to learn and apply a variety of concepts from our American government system. The course will begin by developing an understanding of the Constitution and its principles as a foundation of our governmental system. Students will then take an in-depth look into the three branches of government analyzing the origins, structure, functions and connection to the American citizenry. In the analysis of our Judicial Branch, the students will explore landmark Supreme Court cases associated with the many issues of our contemporary world. Lastly, students will explore political ideology and our political system. Students will not only examine the election system, but also the role politics plays in electing our representatives.

In the second portion of the course, students will have an opportunity to learn and apply the concepts used to understand basic Economics and an analysis of specific contemporary examples. Students will master economic concepts including scarcity, opportunity cost, supply, demand, elasticity, competition, and globalization. In addition to understanding key concepts students will analyze the way in which these concepts relate to them and the global community. Students will take an in-depth look into America’s economic history and economic challenges in an effort to develop a more sophisticated worldview.

**Course Expectations:**

Students will…

* Understand important facts, concepts, and theories pertaining to U.S. Government and Politics
* Analyze the different theories of government that pertain the U.S. Government
* Evaluate the role of political parties in the United States
* Explain the role of the institutions of government
* Analyze United States foreign and domestic policy past and present
* Demonstrate economic reasoning and decision making skills
* Analyze the development of modern economic theory
* Explain the relationship between supply, demand and prices
* Analyze the impact of government intervention in markets
* Analyze the role of the business and labor in the economy
* Evaluate the role of monetary and fiscal policy in shaping the economy
* Examine international trade and globalization

**Teacher Contact Information:**

* Instructor: Mr. Tim Cunningham
* Room # 216
* Phone: 610-759-1730 extension 2216
* Email: tscunningham@nazarethasd.org

**Required Materials:**

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| Paper  Pen  Pencil | Notebook  Textbook |

**Pennsylvania Academic Standards:**

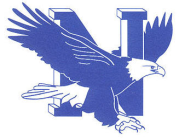
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| **5.1.12 Principles and Documents of Government**  **5.2.12 Rights and Responsibilities of Citizens**  **5.3.12 How Government Works**  **5.4.12 How International Relationships Function** | 6.1.12 Economic Systems  6.2.12 Markets and the Functions of Governments  6.3.12 Scarcity and Choice  6.4.12 Economic Interdependence  6.5.12 Work and Earnings |

**Grading & Assessment Policies:**

All assignments will be graded on a point system. Point value will vary based on the amount of work and effort that is required to complete the task. The course will include a variety of assessment tools including tests, quizzes, projects, in-class activities, homework, and participation.

Homework is due at the **beginning** of class. Students are responsible to have their homework out on their desks at the beginning of class so that it can be checked for completion. Any student that fails to produce completed homework at the beginning of class will receive a zero for the assignment. Homework may not be made up if student is aware of the assignment and present when the assignment is checked in class.

Students will be permitted to hand in non-homework assignments up to one day late. All late assignments will earn no more than ½ credit regardless of quality or completeness.

**Classroom & Attendance Policies**

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***Make-Up Work:***

Students are expected to make up work within the amount of time that they were absent from school. Students are reminded that it is their responsibility to seek out extra help withmaterial/assignments that were covered during an absence. Work that is not turned in within the allotted time will result in a zero for the assignment. Tests must be made up immediately following a student absence. Tests that have not been made up within a reasonable period of time will result in a zero.

***Classroom Rules:***

1. Be on Time- Students should be seated when the bell rings. Tardiness will **not** be accepted.
2. Be Prepared- Students must **always** bring paper, pen or pencil, notebook and covered textbook to class. Students will not be permitted to leave class to go to their locker for such items.
3. Be Courteous- Students are expected to respect the space, possessions AND opinions of all others in this classroom. Disrespect of any kind will not be tolerated.

*\*In addition to classroom rules students are responsible to adhere to all school rules and policies in accordance with the student handbook.*

***Academic Honesty:***

There are many times throughout this course that students will be expected to conduct research in order to complete assignments. It is **NEVER** acceptable to plagiarize. This means that if you use someone else’s work-- give them credit!!! You are responsible to appropriately document all outside sources using MLA format. If you need help with this please let me know. Ignorance is not an excuse for plagiarism. Any student that plagiarizes an assignment will receive a zero for that assignment.

***Textbook Policy:***

The course textbook is to be covered with a proper textbook cover to protect it and extend the life of this resource. The student and/or guardian will be responsible to pay for any damages to their assigned textbook.

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***Teaching Resource Disclaimer:***

To enhance student understanding and learning of a wide variety of economic concepts, this course will incorporate a variety of multimedia tools. We will be watching a variety of videos, listening to speeches and selected music that relates directly to the subject matter. Some of these materials will be rated PG, PG-13, or R. I assure you these materials are carefully chosen to showcase only relevant concepts. If you find these teaching tools objectionable for your student, simply note this below and arrangements will be made for your student.

Please indicate with parent signature ***ONLY if you do not*** wish for your child to view the materials mentioned above: **X**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Communication:***

In an effort to make sure that both you and your parent/guardian are aware of the course rules and expectations listed above I would like you and your parent/guardian to sign below. I will check for this signature at the start of class TOMORROW. Failure to return this sheet will result in an academic detention.

Parent Signature: **X**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: **X**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_